

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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2a1
1. An introducer sheath comprising:  
a shaft extending from a proximal end portion to a distal end portion;  
and  
a distal tip section at said distal end portion of said shaft,  
said distal tip section comprising a polymeric material containing over  
20% and up to about 75% by weight of radiopaque material, and  
said shaft being distinctly less radiopaque than said distal tip section.
  2. The introducer sheath according to claim 1, wherein said distal tip  
section contains between about 50% to 55% by weight of radiopaque  
material.
  3. The introducer sheath according to claim 1, wherein said radiopaque  
material is selected from the group tungsten, titanium, tantalum, platinum,  
gold, silver, bismuth trioxide and lead.
  4. The introducer sheath according to claim 1, wherein said radiopaque  
material is tungsten.
  5. The introducer sheath according to claim 4, wherein said tungsten  
particles range in size from about 0.5 microns to about 25 microns.
  6. The introducer sheath according to claim 4, wherein said tungsten  
particles range in size from about 1.4 microns to about 1.8 microns.
  7. The introducer sheath according to claim 1, wherein said polymeric  
material of said distal tip section is selected from the group fluorinated  
ethylene propylene, nylon, polyethylene, polyurethane and  
polytetrafluoroethylene.
  8. The introducer sheath according to claim 1, wherein said polymeric  
material of said distal tip section is fluorinated ethylene propylene.

1 9. The introducer sheath according to claim 8, wherein said polymeric  
2 material of said distal tip section contains radiopaque filler over 20% by  
3 weight of tungsten particles.

1 10. The introducer sheath according to claim 9, wherein said distal tip  
2 section contains between about 50% to 55% by weight of tungsten  
3 particles.

1 11. The introducer sheath according to claim 9, wherein said tungsten  
2 particles range in size from about 0.5 microns to about 25 microns.

1 12. The introducer sheath according to claim 9, wherein said tungsten  
2 particles range in size from about 1.4 microns to about 1.8 microns.

1 13. The introducer sheath according to claim 1, wherein said distal tip  
2 section was initially a separate member.

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1 14. An introducer sheath comprising:  
2 a shaft extending from a proximal end to a distal end; and  
3 a distal tip section at said distal end of said shaft,  
4 said distal tip section comprising a polymeric material containing  
5 radiopaque particles,  
6 said shaft being distinctly less radiopaque than said distal tip section,  
7 said distal tip section polymeric material is fluorinated ethylene  
8 propylene and contains between about 50% to 55% by weight of tungsten  
9 particles that range in size from about 1.4 microns to about 1.8 microns.

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